



CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

October 21, 2008

R. David Paulison
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Mr. Paulison:

Yesterday, KGAN-TV in Cedar Rapids, IA aired a report on testing they had conducted of 20 FEMA mobile homes. Their tests found potentially unsafe levels of formaldehyde in several of those homes.

As Governor and Lieutenant Governor, our priority is the health and safety of those Iowans still living in FEMA mobile homes, which is why we are very concerned with the results of those tests.

We are writing to ask that FEMA take immediate action in response to these concerns, so that the well-being of Iowans is being properly addressed.

We believe it is unacceptable that any Iowan who was the victim of last summer's storms must now face the possibility of living in temporary housing that may have potentially unsafe levels of formaldehyde. That is why we are asking FEMA to do the following:

- First, FEMA should immediately retest the 20 trailers featured on KGAN-TV. While FEMA may have laboratories available to do such tests, you should be aware that the University of Iowa's Hygienic Laboratory is nearby and able to assist in this effort.
- Second, FEMA should offer free tests to any of the 562 Iowa families living in temporary housing who may request to confirm their formaldehyde levels.
- Finally, if formaldehyde levels in any of those mobile homes are found to be potentially unsafe, FEMA should take appropriate steps to assist those families.

The historic storms that hit Iowa this past summer has led to an equally historic effort to assist victims and rebuild our state. It is an effort that resulted thanks to cooperation between local communities, state government and federal agencies.

We trust that cooperation will continue as FEMA takes steps to remedy the concerns facing those Iowans living in temporary housing. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Culver
Governor of Iowa

Patty Judge
Lt. Governor